Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-23, 31, 33-35, and 39 are

pending in the application, with claims 1 and 17 being the independent claims. These

changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is

respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for

allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will

expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the

undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Martyfine

Agent for Applicants Registration No. 50,211

Date: November 26, 2003

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